All people who visit Connecticut town halls believe their business is important. The local person pursuing a dog license is treated in the same way as the person who comes from California and stays in a nearby hotel, eats at local restaurants, and purchases certified copies of vital records. This is right and proper.

If passed, Senate Bill 414 will attract court challenges. Under the U.S. Code, denial of equal access is prohibited. Will Connecticut entertain subsequent discriminatory bills to deny service to people requesting vital records for passports? Sports registrations? Social Security benefits?

Although this bill's origin is not obvious, if Connecticut town clerks do not wish to serve all their customers, Connecticut voters would be well advised to hire new ones. If Dr. Mullen is in favor of discrimination, Connecticut voters should decide whether this is a message they wish to send to the nation. This legislation affects everyone with Connecticut roots. Wherever we live, we find this bill inexpedient.

Sincerely,
Melinde Lutz Byrne, CG, FASG
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